

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 30, 2023*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, had I voted, I would have voted "yes" on passage of H.R. 500, the Financial Exploitation Prevention Act (Roll Call No. 94). By allowing registered open-end investment companies to delay the redemption of a security if the request was believed to be the result of financial exploitation, this bill protects American's hard-earned savings. Should this legislation become public law, it will bolster our financial security by preventing abuse of seniors and vulnerable adults.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF DEACON KENNETH JEROME  
GAINES**HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 30, 2023*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Deacon Kenneth Jerome Gaines. Deacon Gaines, known as Kenny to those closest to him, unfortunately passed away on January 15, 2023. Kenny was a loving, caring, and kind-hearted family man. He was married to the love of his life, Cassandra L. Covington, and deeply loved their children April and Gerard.

Born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, Kenny was educated in Detroit Public Schools and honorably served his country in the Army. After his service, Kenny went to trade school and took classes in painting, plumbing, and cooking. Kenny eventually started his own business, "Kenny's Car Wash!", which remained his pride and joy until his passing.

Kenny's faith was a fundamental part of his life, including his relationships with the City Temple Seventh-Day Adventist Church and the True Faith in God's Temple. Later, he became a member of St. John's Tabernacle, NPC where he served faithfully as a deacon, cook, and a member of the men's choir.

Deacon Gaines remained committed to serving his community throughout his life, including volunteering at the Mathis Community Center. He often spent time helping the "Young-Men-In-Motion" mentorship program, serving at the annual Thanksgiving Turkey giveaway, and contributing to the development of the community garden that provides free vegetables to residents. Kenny's dedication to serving others was a constant through his life.

Kenny leaves cherished memories behind to those who love him most and my sympathies are with his family.

RECOGNIZING SLADE BOND AND  
HIS SERVICE TO THE HOUSE JU-  
DICIARY COMMITTEE**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 30, 2023*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with Rep. DAVID CICILLINE, longtime Chair of the

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law, to thank Slade Bond for his service to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Slade came to the Committee after serving as legislative counsel to Representative Hank Johnson. Prior to that, Slade was a law clerk for the Center for Democracy and Technology. Slade received his B.A. from Mary Washington College, his J.D. from the University of Kansas School of Law, and his LL.M. from the George Washington University Law School.

Slade joined the Committee in March 2014, serving as Democratic Counsel and then Chief Democratic Counsel for the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial, and Antitrust Law. For the past 4 years, Slade has served as Chief Counsel for the Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law.

Throughout his service on the Committee, Slade has provided Members and staff with strategic advice and leadership on a range of legal and policy issues related to competition, bankruptcy, arbitration, commercial contracts, and federal agencies. Slade also has acted as a generous mentor and advisor for junior colleagues on the Committee, setting an example as a superlative staff member.

During his tenure as Chief Counsel for the Antitrust Subcommittee, Slade applied his keen intellect, conscientiousness, and creativity to advance the priorities of the Subcommittee. Slade supervised staff and led Member preparation for over two dozen hearings and markups, including a 29-hour markup that resulted in Committee passage of a suite of six bills to restore competition online.

Notable among his many accomplishments is his leadership of a historic, 16-month, top-to-bottom investigation of competition in digital markets. Slade assembled a dedicated team of counsels, technologists, fellows, special assistants, and clerks to examine the dominance of Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google in the digital economy. He coordinated and supervised the team's review of nearly 1.3 million documents; interviews with more than 240 market participants, former employees of the investigated platforms, and other individuals; and holding of 7 hearings with testimony from 38 witnesses, including a hearing with the CEOs of Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google. In addition, Slade cowrote, and managed the drafting of, the culmination of this investigation: a 450-page report entitled "Investigation of Competition in Digital Markets: Majority Staff Report and Recommendations," which the Committee adopted in April 2021 and published in June 2022.

Slade has developed a well-earned reputation for his excellent work with Members and staff from both parties, in both the House and the Senate, to shepherd important bills into law. These bills include legislation to reduce the cost of antitrust enforcement to taxpayers by modernizing merger filing fees, to protect our national security by requiring merging parties to disclose subsidies from foreign economic adversaries, to preserve the resources of state antitrust enforcers by exempting state enforcement of the federal antitrust laws from private multidistrict litigation, and to prohibit the enforceability of predispute arbitration agreements and non-disclosure agreements related to sexual-assault or sexual-harassment disputes.

The Committee, and Congress, will greatly miss Slade, but we look forward to working with him in his new role as Deputy Assistant

Attorney General for the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Legislative Affairs.

We thank Slade for his tireless work ethic, acute attention to detail, impeccable work product, and enthusiasm for the mission of the Committee to ensure economic justice for American consumers, workers, and small businesses.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
QUENTIN "Q" SOLDIER WIL-  
LIAMS**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 30, 2023*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, the City of Middletown and the State of Connecticut lost one of its brightest lights earlier this month with the tragic passing of State Representative Quentin "Q" Soldier Williams just hours after being sworn in for what would have been his third term as a State Representative representing Middletown in Connecticut's General Assembly. At only thirty-nine years old, Q was taken from us much too soon, and his loss reverberates throughout his community and our state.

When running for President, Barack Obama said, "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or if we wait for some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek." I cannot think of anyone who embodied that spirit more than Q.

Born and raised in Middletown, Connecticut Q loved his hometown. When he first returned after graduating from Bryant University, he worked in finance where he developed a sense of how that industry could positively impact communities as well as how important it was for young people to better understand how a strong financial footing would help them succeed. He left the finance industry to become the Executive Director of the Middletown's Downtown Business District where he focused his time and energies on advocating for local business owners and finding innovative ways to encourage increased activity and tourism downtown.

In tandem with these first professional steps, Q also began his journey into politics when he returned home from Bryant. Always seeking ways to make a difference and knowing influencing local government was key, Q joined the Middletown Young Democrats and the Middletown Democratic Town Committee. He was soon recruited to run for local office—first as an alternate to the Planning and Zoning Commission, which he eventually chaired, then as City Treasurer, a position in which he served for two terms. One of Q's proudest moments was on the evening of his election to his first term as State Representative for the 100th District, where he would represent his beloved hometown.

Q was a proud product of the Middletown public school system, where as an adult he could often be found reading with elementary school students and mentoring those in middle and high school, but he also understood the challenges of urban classrooms and minority students. He found true professional fulfillment when he joined Excellence Community

Schools as their Director for Advocacy and Policy where he played an instrumental role in the launch of Stamford Charier School for Excellence. His passion for equality in education also led Q to co-found and serve as the co-director of EquityCT, a nonprofit dedicated to creating learning opportunities, building actionable understanding of equity, and dismantling systemic inequity through action and civic engagement.

In addition to his professional and political work, Q was also deeply involved in the community itself. He sat on the Board of Directors for numerous community organizations, like the Oddfellows Playhouse Youth Theater, the Middletown Substance Abuse Action Council, the Middlesex United Way, and the Middletown Racial Justice Coalition to name just a few. He also volunteered his time and energies to local charitable efforts like the Community Foundation of Middlesex County Live Local Give Local 365 Fund, the Middlesex Chamber of Congress Young Professional Alliance, and the Columbus House Chocolate to the Rescue event. He was an active member of the Cross Street AME Zion Church and, most recently, Q proudly crossed the line, becoming a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.—Beta Sigma Lambda Chapter.

Former First Lady Michele Obama once said, "People who are truly strong lift others up. People who are truly powerful bring others together." By those definitions, Q Williams was one of the strongest, most powerful people I have ever had the honor to know. Whether it was a student, local business owner, constituent, family member, friend, or new acquaintance, he sought to open doors of opportunity, to help in any way he could. He would always ask, "how can I help you?" He saw the potential in everyone and in everything, developing networks and connections that enabled him to connect the right people with each other so that potential could be realized. With every smile, every laugh, every action, and every word, he raised others up and brought people together. It was extraordinary to witness.

Q had the widest smile and the most gregarious laugh for which he will always be remembered. Though still so young, he touched countless lives and hearts through his commitment and love for his community. As someone recently so eloquently put, the Honorable Quentin "Q" Soldier Williams will forever be Middletown's favorite son. As we continue to grieve his loss, I extend my deepest condolences and heart-felt sympathies to his wife, Carrissa, and his mother, Queen. There are no words to ease their sorrow, but I hope they find some comfort in knowing just how deeply he will be missed and how greatly all those fortunate enough to have known him will strive to honor his memory.

HONORING WILL MITCHELL'S  
SERVICE AS LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

**HON. ANGIE CRAIG**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 30, 2023*

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and congratulate Will Mitchell for 4 years and 2 Congresses as my Legislative Director.

Will has been a dedicated public servant and legislative staffer to the state of Minnesota for a decade now, previously serving for Congressman Rick Nolan for Will's own hometown district and Duluth, Minnesota.

His expertise on energy and environmental policy helped us enact the Local Water Protection Act during the 117th Congress. He has been instrumental in forming my office as a first-term Member to now a returning Member of the Energy and Commerce Committee. Not only that, Will has been a jack of all trades, working in areas of Agriculture, Transportation and Infrastructure, Tax, Financial Services and so many different policies.

I am grateful for Will's tireless advocacy for local communities in my district, spearheading our offices efforts to secure over \$40 million in funding for Community Projects. He helped navigate my legislative portfolio through the pandemic, but also constantly stay on top of the issues impacting working families in Minnesota's Second District.

It has also been a joy watching Will and Sacha's family grow—with 2 young boys, Cal and Charlie, joining us all during his time in my office.

I've appreciated Will's advice and counsel over the years and wish him the best in his new adventure off the Hill.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. AYANNA PRESSLEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 30, 2023*

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to physically record my vote on Ocasio-Cortez No. 73 amendment to H.R. 21. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 69.

#### RECOGNIZING THE CENTER FOR TRANSFORMING LIVES

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 30, 2023*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Center for Transforming Lives.

Whereas in 1907, the Center for Transforming Lives, (formerly the YWCA of Tarrant County) was founded by Fort Worth women as the first YWCA to serve local low-income women. Early services included housing, employment support and social activities.

Whereas in the 1920s, the Center for Transforming Lives founded the local United Way, as well as the local chapters of USO and Red Cross.

Whereas in the 1950s, the Center for Transforming Lives expanded services throughout Fort Worth, as well as Arlington and Parker County.

Whereas in 2013, the Center for Transforming Lives underwent a strategic plan that indicated that further expansion was needed to disrupt the cycle of poverty for women and children. As such, an increase was made in families serviced by homeless services, early childhood education and economic mobility services were added.

Whereas in 2017, the Center for Transforming Lives became a safety net for more than 3,000 women and children in Tarrant County annually.

Whereas in the early 2020s, the Center for Transforming Lives doubled the number of children served annually.

Whereas in 2022, the Center for Transforming Lives is celebrating its 115th anniversary.

Therefore, be it resolved, that we recognize the important work of the Center for Transforming Lives in disrupting the cycle of poverty and moving women and children to a place of prosperity.

HONORING THE 33RD ANNUAL  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
YOUTH ORATORICAL CONTEST

**HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 30, 2023*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 38th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration and the cornerstone of the event, the 33rd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest, hosted by the Prince William Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Each year, the members of the Prince William County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated invite community members to gather on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day to celebrate and reflect upon his life and his legacy. The pinnacle of this event has become the Youth Oratorical Contest, which brings together students in grades 6 through 12 for a public speaking competition to honor and sustain Dr. King's spirit of optimism, public service, racial harmony, and human rights through the voices of youth.

Dr. King had a vision for what our United States of America should be and worked tirelessly towards making it a reality. Our country still faces obstacles that Dr. King fought to remove, and we must commit ourselves to realizing his vision: "the creation of the Beloved Community."

Dr. King's words continue to inspire our youth, who carry on his legacy and prepare to become the future leaders of our country. Participants in the MLK Youth Oratorical Contest pay tribute to Dr. King with their ability to communicate with passion and clarity, just as he did. This year, the competition challenged students to deliver speeches addressing the theme, "A View of the Promised Land"—inspired by Dr. King's "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech that he delivered on April 3, 1968—the night before he was assassinated.

Six Virginia students presented their reflections on Dr. King's legacy, and they eloquently demonstrated how his words empower them.

I congratulate the following finalists and commend them for their participation in the 33rd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest:

Sakshi Gowda—Reagan Middle School  
Kiomi Ninasau—Gainesville Middle School

Alyssa M. Godfrey—Benton Middle School  
Brooklynn Saunders—Gar-Field High School  
Myles Lanier—Manassas Park High School  
Shavonne Davis—Patriot High School